

Message Text

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72

ACTION ORM-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-14 ISO-00 SR-02 CIAE-00 FBIE-00

INSE-00 NSAE-00 VO-03 SY-03 DODE-00 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 /102 W

----- 107928

R 271520Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY MBABANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6167

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, WZ

SUBJECT: DETENTION SOUTH AFRICAN REFUGEE

REFS: A. STATE 058164, B) MBABANE 0461 (NOTAL) C. MBABANE 0460

NOTAL D. MBABANE A-12 (NOTAL) E. MBABANE 0214 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY. CHARGE MET WITH ZONKE KHUMALO MARCH 27 TO DISCUSS SITUATION OF DETAINED REFUGEE V. A. SHANGE. SHANGE DETAINED FOR 60-DAY PERIOD FOR POLITICAL ACTIVISM. KHUMALO STATED HE WOULD CONVEY USG CONCERNS TO GOVERNMENT OF SWAZILAND. HE GUESSED THAT UNLESS ALTERNATIVE HAVEN SOON FOUND FOR AT LEAST TWO OTHER TROUBLESOME AND POLITICALLY-ACTIVE SOUTH AFRICAN REFUGEES, GOVERNMENT OF SWAZILAND WOULD EVENTUALLY HAVE NO CHOICE BUT DETAIN THEM. END SUMMARY.

2. CHARGE OBTAINED APPOINTMENT DPM ZONKE KHUMALO MARCH 27, AS INSTRUCTED REFTEL A. FORMER ASKED ABOUT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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(A) REASON FOR DETENTION AND (B) WELFARE/PHYSICAL

CONDITION V. A. SHANGE. CHARGE STRESSED HE ACTING ON INSTRUCTIONS USG WHICH REFLECTED DOMESTIC US INTEREST AND INTEREST OF FOREIGN, ANTI-APARTHEID GROUPS. HE REMINDED KHUMALO OF GOOD SWAZI REPUTATION INTERNATIONALLY FOR RECEPTION AND TREATMENT REFUGEES AND URGED A POLICY OF RESTRAINT AND PATIENCE ON PART GOS PENDING SUCCESS ONGOING RESETTLEMENT EFFORTS.

3. DPM KHUMALO STATED HE "PLEADING" FOR UNDERSTANDING US AND OTHER GOVERNMENTS IN CURRENT SITUATION WITH REFUGEES. HE TRACED HISTORY SWAZILAND POLICY TOWARD REFUGEES. HE SUMMARIZED CURRENT POLICY AS PERMITTING ABSOLUTE FREEDOM TO REFUGEES SO LONG AS THEY BEHAVED THEMSELVES. HE DESCRIBED THIS AS MOST LIBERAL POLICY PRACTICED IN AFRICA. HE CONTINUED THAT SOME REFUGEES HOWEVER WERE POLITICALLY MOTIVATED INDIVIDUALS. IN CASE OF SHANGE "AND OTHERS", HE SAID, UNFORTUNATELY POLITICAL ACTIVISM DOMINANT PERSONALITY TRAIT. KHUMALO SAID TWO SHANGES AND ZIKALALA HAD BEEN WARNED TIME AND TIME AGAIN ABOUT ENGAGING IN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES WHILE IN SWAZILAND. HE SAID V.A. SHANGE HAD PARTICIPATED ALONG WITH AMBROSE ZWANE IN PARTISAN POLITICAL ADDRESSES ON DOMESTIC SWAZI ISSUES ON OCCASION OF A FUNERAL (REFTELS B & C). THEREFORE SHANGE DETAINED ON GROUNDS POLITICAL ACTIVITIES AND FOR PERIOD 60 DAYS. HE SAID SHANGE'S PHYSICAL CONDITION GOOD. KHUMALO SAID HE WOULD INFORM HIS GOVERNMENT OF USG CONCERNS. HE PREDICTED FLATLY THAT UNLESS HAVEN OUTSIDE SWAZILAND FOUND BEHAVIOR OF REFUGEES WOULD EVENTUALLY LEAVE GOS NO CHOICE BUT TO DETAIN OTHER SNAGE, ZIKALALA, AND "PERHAPS ONE OTHER" (MKHWANAZI). KHUMALO SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF SWAZILAND HAD THE UNDERSTANDING OF OTHER AFRICANS ON THIS AND THAT GATSHA BUTHELEZI (REF D & E) HAD AGREED THAT GOVERNMENT OF SWAZILAND CORRECT IN EXPELLING REFUGEES WHO POLITICALLY INDISCREET. BUTHELEZI ALLEGED TO HAVE TOLD KHUMALO THAT ONCE KWAZULU INDEPENDENT REFUGEES IN SWAZILAND WOULD BE WELCOME THERE, BUT HE WOULD NOT RPT NOT REQUEST SWAZILAND TO CONTINUE HARBOR UNDESIRABLE REFUGEES PENDING THAT DEVELOPMENT. KHUMALO CLOSED BY ASKING CHARGE REPORT EXACT TERMINOLOGY THAT DPM "PRAYING" LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT UNITED STATES OR OTHER NATIONLS WOULD RELIEVE SWAZILAND OF THIS PROBLEM BY ADMITTING THOSE FEW REFUGEES NO LONGER WELCOME HERE.

4. CHARGE ASSURED KHUMALO HE WOULD REPORT FULLY ON CONVERSATION AND REITERATED ADVICE THAT SWAZILAND PRESERVE ITS INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION FOR MODERATION AND COMPASSION BY PURSUING POLICY OF RESTRAINT AND PATIENCE.

SPICER

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Message Attributes

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